

You have supported the oppressor over the oppressed and the butcher over the victim.

Also, you have violated the law of war by attacking an independent sovereign Arab nation with your first crusade campaign in 1991. By force, you have occupied the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf. In addition, today, you are occupying Iraq and Afghanistan.

Also, you have violated all laws of war, and in particular, your treatment of Prisoners of War, in Afghanistan and Iraq. We are the best example of such violations and your "Black Sites" for torturing prisoners. This, and with your "Abu-Ghurayb" prison in Iraq, Guantanamo camps are witness to all of that.

So, you are the first class war criminals, and the whole world witnesses this. You have no values and ethics and no principles. You are a nation without a religion. On the other hand, we are a great nation, with a great religion, values, ethics, and principles, which we comply with and follow, and we invite people to following our ways. History will testify on our actions. You should look back at Salah Al-Din and how ethically he treated your crusader ancestors that were prisoners to him.

We fight you to defense our nation, our religion, and our land. All heavenly and earthly laws guarantee our rights to do so. We, Muslims, are content with God's book, the Quran, to fight you with. God has granted us to fight, in verse 39, Al-Hajj: ((To those against whom war is waged, permission is given (to fight,) because they are wronged and verily, Allah is most powerful for their aid.))

God stated in his book, verse 190, Al-Baqara: ((And fight in the way of Allah those who fight you, but be not the transgressor, Allah likes not the transgressors.))

With regards to the seventh accusation, "Hijacking and/or endangering a vessel or an aircraft":

In return, we ask you: Which is more dangerous; Hijacking and/or endangering a vessel or an aircraft, or endangering an entire population with a military occupation, killing and endangering innocent civilians by starving them with an economic sanction?

If you do not respect the innocent in our countries, then we will do the same, by exposing you to danger and hijacking in the air, at sea, and land.

In God's book, he ordered us to fight you everywhere we find you, even if you were inside the holiest of all holy cities, The Mosque in Mecca, and the holy city of Mecca, and even during sacred months.

In God's book, verse 9, Al-Tawbah: ((Then fight and slay the pagans wherever you find them, and seize them, and besiege them and lie in wait for them in each and every ambush.))

Remember, that you are the ones who attacked the Iranian civilian aircraft, flight 655, in 1988 with your Cruise missiles over the Hormuz straights, killing all of its 290 passengers, among them 66 children. They are still shedding tears today over your victims. Does your blood have a value and the blood of Muslims not?

With regards to the "Terrorism" accusations:

Who are the real terrorists? Is it us, or is it you? America is the terrorist country number one in the world. Is has nuclear weapons of mass destruction, and the hydrogen bombs, and the biological weapons, and its ocean fleets are around the world, threatening countries' security and safety and any country that is not subjected to its oppression will.

In addition, America is the main shepherd of the main support to the Israeli terrorism against Muslims in the occupied state of Pal-

estine, and also support and bond with the terrorist governments of the Arab and Islamic world, which, in turn, oppress and suppress their own people that are calling for freedom, and the application of Islamic law.

We do not possess your military might, not your nuclear weapons. Nevertheless, we fight you with the almighty God. So, if our act of Jihad and our fighting with you caused fear and terror, then many thanks to God, because it is him that has thrown fear into your hearts, which resulted in your infidelity, paganism, and your statement that God had a son and your trinity beliefs.

God stated in his book, verse 151, Al-Umran: ((Soon shall we cast terror into the hearts of the unbelievers, for that they joined companies with Allah, for which he has sent no authority; There place will be the fire; and evil is the home of the wrongdoers.))

God also stated in his book, verse 60, Al-Anfal: ((Against them make ready your strength to the utmost of your power, including steeds of war, to strike terror into the heart of the enemies of Allah and your enemies.))

Also, God has informed us, in his book, of what is in your heart from fear and terror towards us, and that you fear and have been terrorized from us more than God himself. Verse 13, Al-Hashir: ((Of a truth you (Muslims) are more feared in their (the infidels from Christians, Jews, and others) hearts, than Allah. This is because they are men devoid of understanding.))

Therefore, you do not fight us face-to-face, man-to-man. But rather, you fight us from behind roadblocks, trenches, and warplanes, which are thousands of feet in the air.

Your status in Iraq and Afghanistan does not need any further explanation. God has demonstrated to us your mental and your defeated fighting moral status.

God has stated in his book, verse 14, Al-Hashir: ((They fight not against you even together, except in fortified townships, or from behind walls, their enmity among themselves is very great, you would think that they were united, but their hearts are divided. That is because they are a people who understand not.))

Our prophet was victorious because of fear. At a month distant, the enemy did not hear from him.

So, our religion is a religion of fear and terror to the enemies of God: the Jews, Christians, and pagans. With God's willing, we are terrorists to the bone. So, many thanks to God.

The Arab poet, Abu-Ubaydah Al-Hadrami, has stated: ((We will terrorize you, as long as we live with swords, fire, and airplanes.))

With regards to the ninth accusation, "Material support to terrorism":

America is the number one, and the largest country in the world, in spreading military might and terrorism. Also, America is the principle and greatest supplier to the occupying terrorist state of Israel in Palestine. Also, America supports and finances the terrorist regimes that govern the countries of the Arab world, such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan.

Nevertheless, we are defending our rights, land, religion, and our oppressed Muslim brethren around the world. Therefore, we would spend all of our money and properties for this cause. This is not strange, since Muslims are all part of the same Umma.

We will make all of our materials available, to defend and deter, and egress you and the filthy Jews from our countries.

God has ordered us to spend for Jihad in his cause. This is evident in many Quranic verses.

Verse 195, Al-Baqara: ((And spend of your substance in the cause of Allah, and make

not your own hands contribute to your destruction, but do good; for Allah loves those who do good.))

We ask to be near to God, we fight you and destroy you and terrorize you. The Jihad in god's cause is a great duty in our religion. We have news for you, the news is: You will be greatly defeated in Afghanistan and Iraq and that America will fall, politically, militarily, and economically. Your end is very near and your fall will be just as the fall of the towers on the blessed 9/11 day. We will raise from the ruins, God willing. We will leave this imprisonment with our noses raised high in dignity, as the lion emerges from his den. We shall pass over the blades of the sword into the gates of heaven.

So we ask from God to accept our contributions to the great attack, the great attack on America, and to place our nineteen martyred brethren among the highest peaks in paradise.

God is great and pride for God, the prophet, and the believers. . . .

Signed: The 9/11 Shura Council
Khalid Sheikh Mohammed
Ramzi bin As-Shibh
Walid bin 'Attash
Mustafa Ahmed Al-Hawsawi
'Ali 'abd Al-'Aziz 'Ali
Sunday, 3/1/1429h
Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I certainly agree with the Republican leader about AIG. If I were in the AIG administration, I would recommend they give back those bonuses. Remember, we as a Congress are not defenseless. We can also do things. Senator BAUCUS, chairman of the Finance Committee, is going to make a proposal that will certainly send a message to the people at AIG and others who try to benefit from the hardships the American people face. So in the next 24 hours, you will hear from the chairman of the Finance Committee, Senator BAUCUS, that AIG's recipients of these bonuses will not be able to keep all their money. That is an understatement.

Also, regarding Guantanamo, I think we should not make this a political issue. JOHN MCCAIN has come out in favor of this. "I think that it's a wise move," MCCAIN said about closing Guantanamo Bay. So this is something President Obama is not out there alone on.

AMERICA'S ECONOMY

Mr. REID. Madam President, 8 years of greed and negligence have left our country with the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. President Obama took office in an economic climate that no President would relish: staggering job loss, the largest national debt in history, a frozen credit market, major banks teetering on the edge of insolvency, a record foreclosure rate forcing millions of families to lose their jobs and their homes, a stock market in freefall, leaving senior citizens to put retirement on hold and putting the economic security of millions more at risk.

The first job of any doctor is to stabilize a patient. In the first 2 months of

his administration, President Obama has started to stop the bleeding and begun to heal our economy. The cornerstone of the President's near-term plan to end the freefall he inherited is the Economic Recovery Act, which will save and create 3.5 million jobs, while making critically needed investments in roads, bridges, tunnels, education, health care, and energy.

President Obama, along with Democrats in Congress, understands that as deep as our immediate problems may be, the worst mistake we could make is to stop investing for the future.

That is why the President's budget proposal lays the groundwork for an economy that just doesn't recover in the short term but also prospers in the long term. That starts with ending the previous administration's era of passing the buck, refusing to make tough choices, to plan for the future, or to hold anyone accountable for greed and corruption.

There will be no accounting tricks in the Obama budget. There will be honesty, accountability, lower taxes for working families, smart investments for a long-term prosperity that reaches beyond the privileged to lift up the middle class.

One of the most critical investments we can make today is in a new national energy policy that finally begins to end our addiction to oil. Since the first Model-T Ford left the assembly line more than 80 years ago, the risks associated with oil consumption have been known. Today, we face a three-pronged oil crisis threatening our economy, our national security, and our environment.

After years of writing bigger and bigger checks to foreign nations for more and more barrels of oil, this budget finally takes the logical approach that all Americans understand: We need to reduce our consumption, and we need to find new renewable sources of clean energy that we can grow, creating hundreds of thousands of good jobs right here at home.

We must make these investments now and, if we do, we will not only accomplish those goals but also lower future energy bills for every single American consumer, and we will save money for all middle-class families.

Remember, last year, we spent, buying oil from foreign nations, about a half trillion dollars, which is money that should have stayed at home. That is why President Obama is proposing a market-based cap on carbon pollution to drive production of renewable fuels and energy-efficient technology and reward companies that lead the way.

This budget will also invest \$15 billion a year to develop the renewable sources of energy that lie literally all around us—in the Sun, the wind, and just beneath the Earth in geothermal. All across America, the work of tapping these plentiful energy sources is underway.

In Pennsylvania, renewable energy has sparked more than \$1 billion in pri-

vate investment. In Iowa, shuttered factories have reopened to build parts for wind turbines. In Nevada, a State called the "Saudi Arabia of renewable energy," we already have enough renewable energy projects in operation to heat and cool hundreds of thousands of homes—without a drop of oil.

If we make renewable energy a priority in this budget, these projects will just be the beginning. The solar power in Nevada and the desert Southwest alone could meet our entire energy needs 7 times over—the needs of this country.

The wind energy in the Great Plains, the Midwest, and off both of our coasts is similarly abundant. The potential for geothermal energy—still largely untapped—is staggering.

Until recently, all of these outstanding projects have been moving forward with little, if any, Federal support. Our landscape is dotted with renewable energy projects, but right now we are not connecting the dots. The renewable energy is where people don't live; we need to bring that energy to where people live.

The fact that we are not connecting the dots has to end, and it will end when we begin to invest in a smarter and greener transmission grid that brings renewable energy from the places that produce it to the places that will use it.

We should be catalyzing the work of private sector innovators who are carrying the green revolution on their shoulders. Every job created by a new renewable energy project in California, Utah, Illinois, Nevada, or Iowa is a job that could never be shipped overseas.

Some on the other side may try to protect our country's biggest corporate polluters from cleaning up their act. Some may say that in this time of economic crisis, we should not be investing in our future. Some may criticize the President's budget, yet refuse to offer ideas of their own.

Over the next several weeks, we have the opportunity to engage in a serious and vigorous debate over this budget and the priorities it reflects.

I urge all my colleagues to choose sound policy over sound bites. We may not agree on everything, but I know we can agree that after 8 long years of irresponsibility, we must pass a budget that puts the American people first.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be a period of morning business for up to 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority con-

trolling the first half and the Republicans controlling the second half.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, what is the order?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate is conducting morning business. The majority controls the next 24½ minutes.

THE BUDGET

Mrs. MURRAY. I thank the Chair.

Madam President, for years, we have talked about the fact that the annual budget process is the truest test of priorities that the President and Congress engage in. For years, I was concerned about the last administration's budgets, and I was very vocal about that—too little investment in America, too many gimmicks, and too much focus on the few and not the many. It was those budgets and the policies they imposed that led us to the challenges we are now facing.

President Obama inherited huge problems not of his own making. That is why his first budget blueprint is such a breath of fresh air. President Obama's budget is both a statement of priorities and a test of our commitment to making our country stronger for all Americans.

Our Nation faces serious challenges now, but it is not a time to shy away from the investments that will ensure our prosperity and our competitiveness in the future. His budget builds the foundation that will make America stronger by investing in health care, energy independence, and education. The President inherited an economic recession and staggering deficits. The shortsighted budgets and policies of the past have left our infrastructure crumbling, our education system falling behind, and the debt of war in the pockets of our grandchildren.

There is no doubt we have to take some serious steps to dig out of this hole. President Obama's budget takes steps to cut our deficit in half and to restore fairness to our tax system. Importantly, after 8 years of gimmicks, this budget is transparent and tells the American people exactly where we are spending our money. The President accounts for war spending and leaves room for natural disasters or other emergencies we might face.

The President has been honest about the challenges that face this country, and now he is being honest about where we need to invest. He has warned Congress and the American people about the sacrifice we all have to make to